

Bob Burkard, May 18 Outing, Picnic Island Park, Tampa



*Bob Burkard,
chairman, outings
committee*

Alas, I won't be able to attend the May outing at Picnic Island Park in Tampa but Anne and Robert Mitchell are all set to make sure everybody gets too much to eat at the picnic lunch. That's at noon at Pavilion 607 which, incidentally, is close to parking, close to wade fishing the grass flats, and close to the euphemism; ie, comfort station, powder room, "rest" room.



I also happen to know from fishing friends that the Picnic Island grass flats and mangrove shorelines hold some biggies -- redfish, snook, seatrout, ladyfish. Also, water is warming and fish are more aggressive.

The member catching the longest redfish wins the \$10 gift certificate but be sure to take a picture and measure your snook, seatrout and ladyfish too because they might take the lead in the annual tournament challenge. See the updated chart at the bottom of page 5.



This is a great area for kayak and boat fishing. Picnic Island even has a boat launch. There are lots of places to slide your 'yak into the water. Fish anywhere south of the Gandy Bridge and north of MacDill Air Force Base.

I've been checking the water quality on Healthy Beaches for Hillsborough County and Picnic Island Park has been scoring "good" for many weeks. So, it's looking like you're good to go wade fishing, imho. You can check it again before you go. [Here's the link.](#)

Bob